

Requirements

The Head Start Program Performance Standards 1301.11, 1302.101(b)(4), and 1302.102 states Head Start will conduct a variety of regular investigations including surveys to gather information from program participants to help ensure that participants are receiving the best services we can provide and to help develop and measure program goals. This includes surveying parents and guardians of children participating in the program.

Parent Survey

Each year DHS Head Start conducts surveys with parents and guardians of the children enrolled in all Head Start programs. The information gathered in this survey is used to determine the strengths and needs of our families, to measure satisfaction with services, to evaluate services, and may be used for additional research purposes. This year we included a committee of Policy Council representative (parents) as part of the team that developed the survey to better ensure we are asking the questions that parents want to answer. The survey will be available in both English and Spanish. Provisions will be made if a parent/guardian requires additional assistance.

The survey will be distributed in an online platform that will enable parents to complete the survey anonymously and at their convenience. The survey will be advertised through email and text messages to enrolled families, via signage at sites and centers, and over various social media platforms. Additionally, the Family and Community Services teams will encourage and remind families to participate. The survey will be available for several weeks, with ongoing reminders, to allow for participation.

Results of the survey will be tabulated and shared with Policy Council and governing bodies. The results will also be posted on the DHS Head Start website for review.